

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 52-89 without prejudice or disclaimer. Please add new claims 99-103. The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete listing of claims

Claims 1-89 (Cancelled)

90. (Previously presented) A fiber bale comprising,
a sealed chamber comprising a bulk material,
wherein the bulk material comprises fibers,
wherein the density of the bulk material in the sealed chamber is from 0.2 to 0.9 g/cm³;
wherein the sealed chamber comprises a top wall, a bottom wall and a plurality of side walls;
wherein the package has a substantially cuboidal shape;
wherein the top and bottom walls of the sealed chamber are substantially flat;
wherein at least one wall comprises an evacuator; and
wherein the initial pressure in the sealed chamber is less than ambient atmospheric pressure.
91. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the fibers comprise cellulose acetate fibers.
92. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the walls are comprised of a polymeric film.
93. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the walls are comprised of one or more of: polyethylene, polypropylene, ethylene vinyl alcohol polymer, nylon, mylar, polyethylene terephthalate, polyethylene terephthalate glycol, polyimides, polyamides, biaxially oriented nylon, linear low density polyethylene, or ultra linear low density polyethylene.

94. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the walls provide one or more of a gaseous barrier, a moisture barrier, or an odor barrier.
95. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the dimensions of the bale are from 80 cm to 120 cm in width, from 100 cm to 150 cm in length, and from 105 cm to 155 cm in height.
96. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the sealed chamber has an internal volume from 0.9 to 2.3 m³.
97. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the height of the center of the top wall is less than 6.3% greater than the height of an edge of the top wall.
98. (Previously presented) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the height of the center of the top wall is less than 2.4% greater than the height of an edge of the top wall.
99. (New) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the initial pressure in the sealed chamber is from 16,000 Pa to less than ambient atmospheric pressure.
100. (New) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the initial pressure in the sealed chamber is from 40,000 Pa to 92,000 Pa.
101. (New) The fiber bale according to claim 90, wherein the initial pressure in the sealed chamber is from 50,000 Pa to 70,000 Pa.
102. (New) The fiber bale according to claim 90, the density of the bulk material in the sealed chamber is from 0.48 to 0.82 g/cm³.
103. (New) The fiber bale according to claim 90, the density of the bulk material in the sealed chamber is from 0.50 to 0.78 g/cm³.